THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS.

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1854. The SENATE did not sit to-day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. This being private bill day, Senate bill to confirm the claim of William H. Henderson and the heirs of Robert Henderson to five hundred acres of land in the Bastrop grant was taken from the Speaker's table and read twice.

Mr. JONES, of Louisiana, briefly explained the bill, and asked its immediate consideration; when it was read

Mr. JUNES, and asked its immediate considerance, and asked its immediate considerance, the third time and passed.

the third time and passed.

and appropriately referred: The following Senate bills were then faken from the Speaker's table, read twice, and appropriately referred:

A bill for the relief of David Myerle.

A bill for the relief of Tredwick Vincent, administrato

James Le Caze, survivor of Le Caze & Mallet.

A bill for the relief of the legal representatives of th late Col. John Anderson.

A bill for the relief of Phineas M. Nightingale, ad

strator of the estate of Gen. Nathaniel G A bill for the relief of William Brown.

A bill to authorize the sale of reserved lands, and On motion of Mr. THURSTON, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar (Mr. Stanton, of Kentucky, in the chair,) and proceeded to consider the bills thereon.

The first bill on the calendar was that for the relief of

Samuel Colt, which provides for an extension of his patent for improvement in firearms for seven years from the 25th lary, 1857.

February, 1857.

The bill and the accompanying report having been read—Mr. CLINGMAN said that he had no doubt very large sums of money had been offered gentlemen to induce them either to vote for the bill or be absent if they could not do so. He had no reason to suppose any gentleman would be influenced by such considerations—

Mr. PRATT (interrupting) inquired what reason the gentleman from North Carolina had for saying that he had no doubt large sums of money had been offered to secure the passage of this bill?

Mr. CLINGMAN replied that, should the House at any time raise a committee to investigate the question and call upon him for information, he should be very ready to give an answer. He would say to the gentleman that no sums had been offered to him. (Mr. C.) and yet he had no more doubt that money had been offered than if that been tendered to him. He had obtained the fact in three different ways, upon the testimony of persons in whom he fully relied. He would not say that money had been tendered to members themselves, but it might have been offered to near friends, with which to influence gentlemen of the House. The streets were rife with these things; they had found their way into the papers; and as he had no more doubt of the fact than that he was adversing the Chair, he had stated this much. He thought it due to members, when the vote should be taken upon this bill, that the House should be full, and he therefore gave notice that, before the question should be taken, he would move a call of the House. From what he knew of gave notice that, before the question should be taken, he would move a call of the House. From what he knew of members he presumed there was not one of them who would not show by his conduct he was not to be influ-

nced in this way.

Mr. C. then made a few remarks in reply to the report empanying the bill, declaring that there was no color, pretext, or reason for the passage of the measure. Mr. SEWARD thought it due the House that the gen

deman from North Carolina, after the snnouncement he ad just made, should give the names and facts, if any member had been offered money to control his vote or ction upon this subject.

Mr. CLINGMAN said that he had stated distinctly that

noney might have been offered to particular friends of numbers. If the gentleman desired to raise a committee members. If the gentleman desired to raise a committee of inquiry he (Mr..C.) would be ready to communicate what he knew. From statements which had appeared in the public prints, from what had been mentioned to him by two members of the House, and from what he had heard from other sources, he was satisfied that very liberal offers had been made to particular persons to influence the votes of members on this bill."

Mr. SEWARD. I desire to understand the gentleman,

ecause if a member upon this floor is aware of such receedings, and does not expose them, he stands conemned before the country.

Mr. CLINGMAN. Raise a committee.

. SEWARD. It is not necessary to raise a commit ee. I understand the gentleman to say that large sums of money have been offered members of this House either centrol their votes or to get them to abandon their po-

to control their votes or to get them to abandon their positions as representatives upon this floor.

Mr. CLINGMAN. The gentleman misunderstands me. I do not say money has been offered to members, but to individuals who are supposed to have influence over them. I tell the gentleman again that if he will raise a committee I will give the committee all I know in regard to this matter, and will give reference to ether persons.

Mr. SEWARD. There is no necessity for raising a committee. We have no jurisdiction over Colt.

Mr. LETCHER gave notice that as soon as the committee should rise he would offer a resolution to appoint a committee to inquire whether money or other illegal or improper means have been used to secure the passage of the bill to extend the patent of Samuel Colt for seven

jears, or whether money or other illegal or improper means have been resorted to with a view to secure the assage of any bill through Congress.

Mr. THURSTON then submitted a few remarks in sup-

ort of the bill, and gave the reasons which induced the

Committee on Patents to report it.

Mr. STEVENS, of Michigan, supported the bill, and injuried why these charges on the honesty, integrity, and boner of the House? The gentleman from North Carolna (Mr. CLINGMAN) had intimated that large sums of goney had been offered, directly or indirectly, to influence the action of the House on this bill. Was that gentlethe action of the House on this bill. Was that gentle-man entirely disinterested? Had no offers been made to him for his vote? Why was the gentleman so very anx-ius on this subject? God forbid he should express the last doubt as to the gentleman's honesty; but there were persons who were anxious that this patent should not be extended, that they might enter into the manufac-ture of these articles and flood the world with their bogus trms. These persons could afford to come here and fee gentlemen as attorneys, as counsel to procure the defeat of this bill. He would not say that the gentleman from North Carolina had been approached in this way. He would not say that approaches had been made to that

North Carolina had been approached in this way. He would not say that approaches had been made to that centleman as a learned, able, and eloquent counsellor to obtain his opposition to this bill. But he had as good a reason to suspect that the gentleman had had his virtue tempted as that gentleman had to suspect that others who were in favor of this bill had been bribed to support it.

Mr. CLINGMAN said that he had expressly stated that he had too favorable an opinion of the members of the House to believe that they had been operated upon by the means to which he had referred. He begged leave to say, as his remarks seemed to imply it, that he had never intended to intimate that the members of the Committee on Ratents had been in the elightest degree influenced by the efforts made to procure the passage of this bill.

Patents had been in the slightest degree influenced by the efforts made to procure the passage of this bill.

Mr. STEVENS said that he based the support of the bill on its merits. If the merits of the case were not with the Committee on Patents he did not wish the bill to pass. If the committee were not sustained by the facts he hoped the bill would be promptly rejected.

Mr. BLISS said that this bill came before the House with more than ordinary fairness. He disbelieved the rumor relied upon by the gentleman from North Carolina. It did not comport with his own knowledge and experience, or the knowledge and experience of other gentleman whom he had heard express themselves on this subject. He gave his views in favor of the measure.

Mr. ZOLLICOFFER said that he had listened with regret and surprise to the statement made by the gentleman from North Carolina, implying corruption against members of the House. There was not a gentleman here whom experience and the country that there should have a lightly and williams—32.

The debate was then expended to postpone the further consideration of the bill until the second Monday of December next.

Mr. BRODHEAD moved to postpone the further consideration of the bill until the second Monday of December next.

Mr. GWIN hoped the questien might not prevail. He should regard the vote as a test question, and urged the friends of the bill to resist it.

Mr. PETTIT demanded the yeas and nays on Mr. BRODHRAD's notion, and it was decided in the negative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Bayard, Benjamin, Brodhead, Butler, Clay, Clayton, Cooper, Dawson, Dixon, Evans, Fessenden, Fitspatrick, Hanter, Mason, Norris, Pearce, and Thompson of the House and the country that there should have a subject to postpone the further consideration. It was decided in the properties.

Mr. BRODHEAD moved to postpone the further consideration.

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whose reputation was not involved in the insinuation. It was due to the Heuse and the country that there should be an investigation into the charges; and he therefore aggreted that the committee rise, with a view of reporting in favor of postponing action on the bill until all hase allegations could be examined into.

Mr. CUTTING then briefly gave the reasons which would induce him to vote against the bill.

Mr. LETCHER remarked that nobody, either representing Mr. Colt or the other side, had said any thing to fin on this subject. He had made up his opinion on this aid similar applications on the principle that special legislation had become the curse of the times. He earnest-yargued against the bill.

Mr. STANTON, of Tennessee, Mr. McMULLEN, and P. PRATT each supported the bill, when, without taking any vote upon it, the committee rose.

Mr. LETCHER, by consent, then offered the following

Mr. LETCHER, by consent, as a members be appointed to inquire whether money has been offered to members, or other illegal or improper means used to induce members to aid in securing the passage or defeat of the bill to extent Colt's patent for seven years; and also whether money habeen offered to members or other fillegal or improper' mean used, either directly or indirectly, to secure the passage or defeat of any bill through Congress; and that said committee shall have power to send for persons and papers, with authority to examine witnesses on oath.

Mr. JONES, of Louisiana, moved to lay the resolution of the sable; which motion was disagreed to.

the table; which motion was disagreed to.

The resolution was then adopted.

Whereupon the SPEAKER appointed Messrs. Letters
URSTON, CLUSGERN, ELIOT of Massachusetts, EDDY
TTINO, and ZOLLICOFFER as said committee.

MONDAY, JULY 10, 1854.

IN SENATE.

The following memorials and petitions were presented and appropriately referred: By Mr. MASON: From A. B. Fairfax, a lieutenant in the navy, asking compensation for services as acting pur-ser on board the brig "Heda" and the storeship "Re-lief," and also as acting Governor of Alvarado, in Mexico, in 1847. Also, from the Agriculture Club of Stevensville,

Also, from the Agriculture Club of Stevensville, in Kentucky, and Queen's county, Virginia, asking the adoption of measures for reducing the price of Peruvian guano to the agriculturists of the United States.

By Mr. JONES, of Tennessee: From James L. Collins asking payment for services as secret and confidential agent of the United States Government during the war with Mexico.

By Mr. SHIELDS: From Col. William Gates, asking to be indemnified for losses sustained in the wreck of the

e indemnified for losses sustained in the wreck of the San Prancisco."

Also, from E. Cabet, President of the Association, asking that there be granted for the use of the Icarian community from fifty to one hundred and fifty sections of unoccupied land, situated in Adams county, Iowa, on condition that before the 1st of July, in 1865, they shall introduce on the premises one thousand heads of families or unmarried men over twenty years of age; and that all the lands not improved at that period can be taken back by the United States Government; or to grant from ten to twenty years time to pay for these lands without interest.

Mr. Shiklps paid a high compliment to this associa-tion, declaring that it had won for itself the esteem and good will of the people of Illinois, where it was now lo-cated, endeavoring to work out the great problem of com-

munism.

By Mr. ATCHISON: Additional documents in relation to the claim of Henry C. Miller, Philip W. Thompson, and Jesse B. Turley.

By Mr. PEARCE: From James H. Gale, asking to be

allowed the bounty land to which his brother was entitled as an officer of the United States army.

Also, from Davidge Ridgely, asking a pension for injuries received while in the naval service.

Several petitions were presented for cheap ocean postage and for the repeal of the fugitive slave law.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. MASON, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, to which were referred several memorials asking compensation for slaves taken away by the British during the war of 1812 out of the fund provided for under the first article of the treaty of Ghent, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of Wm. K. Jennings and others. Also, from the same committee, submitted a report

accompanied by a bill for the relief of Lieut. W. D. Porter, U. S. navy.

Also, from the select committee to which was referred

the resolution of the Senate directing it to report rules and regulations fixing the number of the officers of the Senate and their subordinates, submitted a report in relation to the same; which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. PETTIT, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, to which were referred Senate bills for the relief Land. of John Boyd and to authorize T. K. McManus to enter by pre-emption certain lands in the Greensburg land dis-trict, Louisiana, submitted an adverse report on each

Also, from the same committee, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of the heirs of William Turvin, deceased. Mr. CLAY, from the Committee on Commerce, to which was referred the bill to constitute Tuscumbia, in the State of Alabama, a port of delivery, reported it back without amendment, and asked its immediate considera-

No objection having been made, the bill was considered

On motion by Mr. SEBASTIAN. On motion by Mr. SEBASTIAN,

Resolved, That the President be requested to cause to be communicated to the Senate copies of all the correspondence and other official documents on file in the Department of the Secretary of the Interior respecting the claims of persons for services performed and supplies and subsistence furnished to Indians in California, under contracts with Indian agents, in the year 1851, and embracing the names of claimants, the amounts repectively of their claims, on what account created, and by what authority.

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior furnish for the use of the Senate a certified copy of the register or, record of

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior furnish for the use of the Senate a certified copy of the register or, record of the heads of families entitled to life estate reservations under the Cherokee treaties of 1817 and 1819.

BILLS INTRODUCED. Mr. MALLORY introduced a bill to establish a marin

hospital at Apalachicola, Florida.

Mr. HUNTER introduced a bill to graduate the price of the public lands, and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. MASON, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill authorizing the extension of the Alex-andria and Washington Railroad into the District of Co-

Mr. M. then gave notice that he should move a substi-tute when the bill was again taken up, which in the mean time he would move to have printed. The motion was agreed to.

CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC BILL. On motion by Mr. HUNTER, the bill making appro-riations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending the 80th of June,

and ordered to be printed.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the first special order at half-past twelve o'clock, being the

nrst special order at half-past twelve o'clock, being the bill authorizing the construction of a line of telegraph from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean.

This bill was again amended and discussed at some length, Messrs. HAMLIN, BAYARD, EVANS, CHASE, WELLER, and others participating; when the bill was finally ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, the question to be taken by yeas and nays on the passage of the bill to-morrow.

THE HOMESTEAD BILL. The bill granting a homestead of 160 acres of the pub lic lands to actual settlers came up as the special order

Mr. CLAYTON moved to strike out the 6th section, "If any individual now a resident of any one of the States or Territories and not a citizen of the United States, but at the time of making such application for the benefit of this act shall have filed a declaration of intention as required by the naturalization laws of the United States, and shall become a citizen of the same before the issuance of the patent, as made and provided for in this act, he shall be placed upon an equal footing with the native citizen of the United States."

footing with the native citizen of the United States."

And to insert in lieu thereof—
"That any mechanic or other citizen of the United States of full age, engaged in and accustomed to any business, trade, or calling other than the cultivation of land, shall, in consideration of his insuffity to comply with the conditions of this act, by reason of his want of knowledge, skill, or experience in such cultivation of land, be entitled to receive in lieu of 160 acres of land, as herein provided, the sum of \$160, to be paid to him out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated."

As follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Bayard, Benjamin, Brodhead, Butler, Clay, Clayton, Cooper, Dawson, Dixon, Evans, Fessenden, Fitspatrick, Hunter, Mason, Norris, Pearce, and Thompson of Kentucky—18.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Atchison, Bell, Bright, Brown, Cass, Chase, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Geyer, Gillette, Gwin, Hamlin, Houston, James, Johnsen Johns of Iowa, Jones of Tennessee, Pettit, Rockwell, Rusk, Sebastian, Shields, Slidell, Stuart, Sumner, Toucey, Wade, Walker, Weller, and Williams—32.

The debate was then resumed on the amendment of r. CLAYTON; Mesers. CLAYTON, CLAY, and DAWSON staining it, and Messrs. DIXON, SHIELDS, DODGE, Towa, and BROWN opposing the same; when—
Mr. WELLER, at a late hour, moved that the further
ensideration of the bill be postponed until to-morrow;

hich was agreed to.

On motion by Mr. CASS, the Senate proceeded to the onsideration of Executive business; and, after a short time spent therein— The Senste adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Treasury Department, transmitting a me-morial from the merchants of San Francisco, and other papers, asking the erection by the Government of a building in that city for the use of the appraisers, to en-able them promptly and correctly-to discharge their du-ties; which was referred to the Committee of Ways and s and ordered to be printed.

Mr. CLINGMAN said that he observed, by the reading of the Journal, that his name was placed on the investigating committee raised on Saturday last. It would be remembered by the House that he had expressed a very decided opinion that certain facts or allegations were true, although this expression of opinion ought not of course to influence him, and he supposed would not. Yet he thought it would be more satisfactory, as he might be looked upon as standing in the light of prosecutor, that some other gautieman should be substituted in his place. COMMITTEE ON COLT'S PATENT.

INCREASED COMPENSATION. The SPEAKER stated that the first business in order The SPEAKER stated that the first business in order was the consideration of the motion made by Mr. Curris on the 26th ultimo, to suspend the rules so as to enable him to report from the Committee on Accounts a joint resolution to fix the compensation of the employés in the Legislative Departments of the Government, and to prohibit the allowance of the usual extra compensation to such as receive the benefits thereof.

And the question being taken, the third to suspend the rules was agreed to: Yeas 111, nays 46.

Mr. CURTIS, from the Committee on Accounts, then reported said joint resolution, when it was read twice.

Mr. C. then moved to suspend the rule which requires the reference of all measures containing appropriations to the Committee of the Whole; which motion prevailed:

Ayes 104, noes 44.

The House then proceeded to consider the resolution which provides that the officers, clerks, messengers, and other employés in the Legislative Departments of the other employes in the Legislative Departments of the Government shall be paid an increased compensation of twenty per cent. on the amount now received by them; and that the messengers of the House shall not receive less than is allowed the messengers of the Senate; such increase of compensation to commence on the 1st July, 1853, and extra compensation to be hereafter prohibited.

Under the operation of the previous question the resolution was read the third time and passed: Yeas 120, nave 52.

Mr. FULLER moved to suspend the rules to enable him to offer a resolution to discharge the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union from the further consideration of the bill of the House authorizing the purchase or construction of four additional revenue cut-ters and regulating the compensation of those engaged in the revenue marine service.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. FULLER then submitted his resolution, and it was Mr. F. moved to suspend the rule requiring all mea sures making appropriations to be first considered in Committee of the Whole, that the bill might now be acted on; which motion was decided in the negative: Yeas 87, nays 62, two-thirds not voting in favor thereof.

CAPE FEAR RIVER.

Mr. ASHE submitted the following resolution : Resolved, That the rules of the House be suspended, that the Committee of the Whole be discharged from consideration of Senate bill making further appropriation the improvement of the Cape Fear river, North Carolina.

the improvement of the Cape Fear river, North Carolina.

The resolution was adopted: Ayes 106, noes 13.

The House thereupon proceeded to consider the said bill, which appropriates \$140,000 for the continuation of the improvement of Cape Fear river, at or near its communication with the ocean, and \$60,000 to refund to the citizens of Wilmington the amount contributed by them to said improvement, and expended thereon by the agent of the United States in charge of the work.

The rule having been suspended which required the reference of the bill to the Committee of the Whole—

Mr. ASHE briefly explained the measure.
On motion of Mr. FULLER, the bill was amended by striking therefrom the appropriation of \$60,000 to refund

to the citizens of Wilmington the amount contributed by them to the improvement of the river.

Mr. LETCHER moved that the bill be laid on the table; which motion was negatived: Yeas 24, nays 132.

The bill was then read the third time and passed: Yeas 110, nays 28.
On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, by consent,

Resolved, That for the remaining part of the present session all debate in Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union shall be confined strictly to the question or proposition immediately under consideration. On motion of Mr. PHILLIPS, by consent,

Resolved, That on and after the 11th July instant the House of Representatives will assemble for the transaction of business at eleven o'clock A. M. Mr. HENN moved a suspension of the rules to enable him to report back, from the Committee on Public Lands, Senate bill making a grant of lands to the State of Iowa,

in alternate sections, to aid in the construction of certain railroads in said State. Pending which the House adjourned.

TUESDAY, JULY 11, 1854.

IN SENATE. Mr. CHASE, from the Committee on Patents and the Patent Office, submitted an adverse report on the memo-rial of Adolphus Allen, asking an extension of his patent

rial of Adolphus Allen, asking an observation of a water wheel —

Mr. JONES, of Iowa, from the Committee on Pensions, to which was referred House bill to create and provide a pension for David Towle, reported it without amendment, and recommended its passage.

Mr. DODGE, of Iowe, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which was referred the bill to aid in the construction of certain railroads in the State of Missouri by a grant of a portion of the public lands, reported it back with an amendment, and recommended its passage.

Mr. SLIDELL introduced a bill for the relief of A. G TELEGRAPH TO THE PACIFIC.

On motion by Mr. WELLER, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the first special order, being the bill to authorize the construction of a line of telegraph from the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean.

Mr. WELLER asked the unanimous consent of the Se-nate to make an amendment; which was granted, and the bill was read a third time; and on the question, "Shall

the bill pass?" it was decided in the affirmative, as YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Badger, Benjamin, Chase, Dodge of Wiscon-in, Doug'as, Fessenden, Fish, Gwin, Hamlin, Houston, Jones of Iowa, Jones of Tennessee, Rockwell, Rusk, Shields, Stuart, Sumner, Wade, and Weller—20.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Atchison, Bayard, Bright, Brown, Butler, Clay, Cooper, Dawson, Evans, Fitspatrick, Hunter, Johnson, Mason, Pratt, Sebastian, Shidell, Thompson of Kentucky, and Williams—19.

ALEXANDRIA AND WASHINGTON RAILROAD. On motion by Mr. RUSK, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill authorizing the extension of the Alexandria and Washington Railroad into the District of Columbia. The bill having been read, as amended by Mr. Ma

Mr. BRIGHT said he would sustain the bill as Mr. BRIGHT said he would sustain the bill as amended, because it put to rest the contest which had so long existed between the two cities, by embracing a proposition which he conceived could not fail to prove acceptable to all parties. He therefore withdrew all the objections which had been heretofore made by him, and expressed his willingness to accept the bill as it came from the Senator from Virginia, (Mr. Mason.)

Mr. MASON repudiated the authorship of the amendment, and said it was made in accordance with the views of the Senator from Indiana, (Mr. BRIGHT.) And although he (Mr. M.) was responsible for the amendment on the

he (Mr. M.) was responsible for the amendment on the ournal, still he was not so in fact. Indeed, he desired to clear his skirts of the whole matter. What the effect would be he was not prepared to say. He thought it would do no harm, and certainly could effect no good without further legislation on the part of the Virginia

Mr. BROWN suggested an amendment excepting Pennsylvania avenue; which, after a brief discussion, was agreed to; and the bill was passed in the following

"That the Alexandria and Washington Railroad Company "That the Alexandria and Washington Railroad Company, incorporated by the Logislature of Virginia on the twenty-seventh of February, eighteen hundred and fifty-four, to construct a railroad from Alexandria, in the State of Virginia, to the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, he and are hereby authorized to extend their road from any point on the Virginia side of the Potomac river to which said road may be constructed, at or above the squeduct of the Alexandris canal, into the District of Columbia, connecting with the Baltimore and Washington Railroad Depot by the most convenient and practicable route or routes, passing through and along such streets or avenues, except Pennsylvania avenue, of Washington and Georgetown as the corporate authorities thereof may respectively approve, subject to certain provi-

of Washington and Georgetown as the corporate authorities thereof may respectively approve, subject to certain provisions hereinafter expressed.

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That the Alexandria and Washington Railroad Company are hereby authorized to construct a bridge over the Potomac river on, as above, or west of the aqueduct of the Alexandria Canal Company: Procided, Said bridge shall only be built on or over the piers of the aqueduct with the consent of the Alexandria Canal Company: And provided further, In constructing said bridge and crossing the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, said bridge and reilroad shall be so constructed as not to injure or obstruct the use or navigation of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal: And provided further, That this act shall not prevent Congress from giving like privileges to any other railroad company or any other person.

ing like privileges to any other railroad company or any other person.

"Sec. 3. And be it further enacted. That the Alexandria and Washington Railroad Company are hereby authorized to establish depots in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, at such points as the corporate authorities thereof may respectively approve, and to lay their track or tracks to such point or points within said cities, and through and along such streets and avenues, except Pennsylvania avenue, of said cities, as may be respectively approved of by the corporate authorities of said cities, and to make all necessary turnouts; the said railroad company being subject to such terms, conditions, restrictions, and taxation, and to such rules and regulations relative to the construction, repairs, and workingsof their road within the cities of Washington and Georgetown, as the corporate authorities of said cities may from time to time respectively prescribe, so far as it may lay within their resp citive limits: Provided, No higher rate of taxation shall be imposed upon said railroad company than is prescribed by

He therefore asked to be excused from service on the committee, and hoped the Speaker would be authorized to appoint some other gentleman in his place.

Mr. C. was excused by a vote of the House.

It is respective charters of said cities; and said railroad comwas lost in consequence of a disagreement between the pany shall keep an office within the city of Washington or Georgetown, and shall have power to sue and be sued, to make contracts, and to purchase and hold lands so far as may be necessary for carrying on the operations of the command. make contract, and to purchase and hold lands so far as may be necessary for carrying on the operations of the company and the service of process on the president or any director of said company, or on the chief clerk in attendance at the office of the company, shall entitle any party complaining to pro-ceed against said company as authorized under the laws of the District of Columbia to proceed against chartered com-rantes within its limits." anies within its limits."

panies within its limits."

On motion by Mr. MALLORY, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill granting to Jasper Strong, George Terrill, and their associates, the right of way for a railroad through the reserved lands near the navy yard, Pensacola, in the State of Florida; and the bill, having been explained by Mr. Mallory, was read a third time and passed.

The Senate went into executive session at ten minutes before one o'clock; and remained therein until half-past three P. M., when the doors were opened, and, after the fransaction of some business properly pertaining to the morning hour—

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. Mr. Ruffis, of North Carolina, has been appointed

member of the select committee authorized by the resolution of the House adopted on Saturday last, in place of Mr CLINGWAN. Mr. HILLYER called up the motion heretofore ma by him to reconsider the vote by which Senate bill for the relief of Juan M. Luco and Jose L. Luco was referred to the Committee of the Whole. He expressed the hope that the motion would prevail and the bill be at once passed, as it was a very meritorious case.

The motion to reconsider was agreed to, and the bill

was read the third time and passed. THE PUBLIC LANDS.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill of the House granting lands equally to the several-States to aid in the construction of railroads and for the support of schools, Mr. Disexex being entitled to the floor.

Mr. BENNETT raised the question of order that as the gentleman from Ohio had already spoken twice on the subject of the bill, he had no right to address the House a third time, the rule providing that "no member shall speak more than once to the same question without leave of the House, unless he be the mover, proposer, or introducer of the matter pending; in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken." He (Mr. B.) had had but one hour in which to reply to the gentleman from Ohio, and would have the right to close the debate on the had but one hour in which to reply to the gentleman from Ohio, and would have the right to close the debate on the bill, having introduced it. Should the gentleman from Ohio now speak, it would be the third time he had addressed the House on the subject, while the rule prescribed that no member should speak more than once to the same question without leave of the House.

The SPEAKER sustained the point of order, and stated the question to be, "Shall the gentleman from Ohio proceed with his remarks?"

Mr. DISNEY said that he would waive all right to the

Mr. DISNEY said that he would waive all right to the

On motion of Mr. COBB, the further consideration of the bill was then postponed until the third Tuesday in

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Mr. KERR, from the Committee on the Judiciary, re ported a bill for the payment to the State of Maryland of money advanced by that State in aid of the public build-ings in Washington city; which was read twice and

Mr. FENTON, from the Committee on Commerce, re orted back Senate bill to authorize the issue of a register to the brig Amelia, by the name of Abbey Frances; and it was read the third time and passed. Mr. BRIDGES, from the Committee on Patents, re-ported a bill for the relief of Isaac Adams; which was

read twice and committed.

Mr. McDOUGALL, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported back, with an amend-ment, House bill making provision for the postal service in the State of California, and in the Territories of Ore-

gon and Washington.
Mr. DcDOUGALL and Mr. HAVEN explained the bill, when the amendment was agreed to and the bill read the third time and passed.
On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, the House went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. McMullen, of Virginia, in the chair.)
Mr. HOUSTON moved that the committee proceed to third time and passed.

the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the service of the Post Office Department during the fis-cal year ending the 30th of June, 1855. Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, hoped the motion would be voted down, and gave notice that, should it not pre vail, he would move to take up the bill making appropri

ations for the repair, preservation, and completion of On motion of Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, the con

mittee then proceeded to consider the bill making appro-priations for the repair, preservation, and completion of certain public works heretofore commenced under the auhority of law. Mr. RITCHIE, of Pennsylvania, mor to amend the item appropriating \$90,000 for continuing the improve-ment of the navigation of the Ohio river, including the repair of the dam at Cumberland island, by increasing

the sum to \$190,000, and supported his motion by a few Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, thought that the House had better adhere to the estimates of the engineers, and

Mr. CAMPBELL put the seal of his disapprebation or the system of passing laws based exclusively upon in-formation derived from the Departments. He held that the representatives of the people coming from the inte-rior knew better what were the wants of commerce in the egions they represented, from actual observation, than e-half of the engineers who were sent out to make ex-

mr. PRESTON concurred in the views expressed by Mr. PRESTON concurred in the views expressed by Mr. Campbell, and advocated the amendment of Mr. Ritchies. He moved an amendment thereto appropriating \$25,000 to defray the necessary expenses for the custody, control, and management of the Louisville and Portland Canal, so as make the Ohio river free to navigation and commerce. He referred to the heavy toll re-quired on this canal, and said that his amendment would

quired on this canal, and said that his amendment would relieve every boat which passed up and down the Ohio.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, dissented from the suggestion of his colleague (Mr. Wentworth) that the bill should be taken in its present shape. There were amendments which he thought should be made to the bill, and which he had no doubt the committee, on a knowledge of the facts, would be willing to adopt.

Mr. WENTWORTH, of Illinois, replied, contending that the committee should stand by the estimates.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. Preston, when no quorum voted: Ayes 48, noes 47.

The roll was thereupon called and the absentees were reported to the House.

reported to the House.

A quorum having answered to their names, the com mittee resumed its session.

The question was then again taken on the amendment of Mr. Preston, and it was agreed to: Ayes 79, noes 43.

The amendment of Mr. Returns, as thus amended, was

The amendment of Mr. Ritchis, as thus amended, was then agreed to: Ayes 82, noes 49.

Mr. SMITH, of Tennessee, said that as the bill now stood he should vote for it; but if many amendments should be made he would be compelled to vote against it.

Mr. JONES, of Louisiana, offered an amendment repealing the joint resolution explanatory of an act appropriating money for the removal of the raft in Red river, approved January 7, 1858, and authorizing the Secretary of War to expend the appropriation with reference to the Red river raft in such way as he may deem best for the improvement of the navigation of the Red river in and around said raft.

A long debate ensued, when, without coming to a vote

A long debate ensued, when, without coming to a vo n the amendment, the committee rose.

And the House adjourned: Yeas 74, nays 72.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 1854.

IN SENATE.

Mr. BADGER. I will ask the Senate, before proceeding with the usual call for petitions, to allow me to have a bill disposed of which has been returned from the House of Representatives with an amendment. It is a bill which passed the Senate some four or five months ago, "making further appropriation for the improvement of the Cape Fear River, North Carolina."

ment of the Cape Fear River, North Carolina."

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT. The amendment will be read.

Mr. BADGER. I will state in a few words what the amendment is. The bill, as it passed the Senate, appropriated \$140,000 for continuing the improvement of the Cape Fear river, at or near its mouth. There was a second section in the bill which appropriated \$60,000 to reimburse the citizens of Wilmington for some moneys which they had raised, and which they had put into the hands of the officer in charge of the work, for the purpose of continuing it, after a previous appropriation had been expended.

In the year 1852 Congress passed, in the river and

been expended.

In the year 1852 Congress passed, in the river and harbor bill, an appropriation for the purpose of removing the obstructions in the Cape Fear river. The next year no general bill upon the subject was passed, and the Senate made an amendment to the naval appropriation bill, appropriating a further sum for continuing the work, which

was lost in consequence of a disagreement between the two Houses. The difficulty then presented to the citizens of Wilmington was this: the mouth of the river was filling up in consequence of some jetties throwh out by the Government for the protection of Fort Caswell, which, turning the current upon Bald Head, a sandy point opposite the fort, washed the sand into the channel. If the work were stopped from the failure of the appropriation, matters would not remain as they then were, to be removed at that point when a further appropriation should be obtained; but, on the contrary, things would in the interval grow worse, the filling up go on, the channel become yet shallower, the work already done be entirely lost, and consequently more money be required for the removal of the obstruction, in consequence of this interval in the prosecution of the work.

Congress, then, having authorized the work; Congress having assumed it as a public measure of importance to

having assumed it as a public measure of importance to be accomplished by the United States; the appropriation having become exhausted, and one House of Congress having made an appropriation for carrying on the work, and those improvements for the protection of the site of Fort Caswell having been made by the Government, and, therefore, the injury resulting being mainly attributable to the action of the Government, the citizens of Wilmington felt it was no intrusion of theirs, no attempt to entrap or engage the Government in the prosecution of it, which would have been highly blameable and presumptuous in these citizens, but merely a fair and justifiable effort to prevent an actual injury to the Government as well as themselves, which would have resulted by a stoppage of a work already authorized and commenced by Cangries. Under these circumstances, this Congress. Under these circumstances, this sum of money was subscribed, and portions of it raised. It was not expended by the citizens of their agents. It was placed in was paid over to him, and applied by him and under his

Under these circumstances, sir, I thought it was not reasonable to strike out that part of the bill. I felt sa-tisfied that the subject was not fully understood, and that the Government must ultimately see that, in the removal of an obstruction to a navigable water of one of the States of the Union, which was caused by the act of the Govern-ment itself, it is rather hard, rather ungenerous, to require that a small but thriving and energetic community upon its banks should contribute out of their own pockets a portion of the expense necessary to remove the ob-struction—an obstruction mainly caused by the Govern-

I have an abiding confidence that when the matter comes to be understood at another session, this act, small in itself—for the amount is not large, but having high claims of justice and propriety to sanction it—will meet the approbation of Congress. In the mean time I hope the Senate will concur in the amendment which has been made by the House, and allow the bill to be passed.

Mr. CASS. As there is no noise and confusion upon this occasion, I shall certainly vote for the proposition.

The amendment was concurred in and the bill wa

FEES OF DISTRICT ATTORNEYS

Mr. HUNTER presented a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury concerning the fees of district attorneys, with a statement of questions that have arisen concerning the propriety of making definite provision by law regarding the same. The letter, after going into a full examination of the

subject, says: "The question arises whether the district attorneys are bound to appear for the United States in cases brought against his officers or others in which the United States is concerned, and have a right to make out their fees for such services un-der the act of 1853; and whether these fees are to be added to the fees of such attorneys, and form part of the fees under

to the fees of such attorneys, and form part of the fees under the limitations of that act?

"There is doubt and difficulty in the minds of the accounting officers, and an opinion of the district attorneys that if they should appear the United States should pay, but that they are not limited to the fees named in the act of 1853, but are entitled to a greater amount; and that such fees are not to form any part of the \$6,000 named in the act of 1853.

"I would suggest whether it would not be well to settle these questions by distinct provisions of law, as well as to past as to future services."

MEMORIALS AND PRTITIONS. The following memorials and petitions were presented

and appropriately referred:

By Mr. SEWARD: From Charles Hubbs, asking such odification of the letter and newspaper postage as will do away with fractional parts of a cent. Also, additional documents on the claim of Myles T.
Wooley, for services in the late war with Great Britain.
By Mr. TOUCEY: From the owners of the fishing hooner "Brothers," of New London, asking to be allow-

schooner "Brothers," of New London, asking to be allowed fishing bounty.

By Mr. CHASE: From citizens of Sandusky, Ohio, asking the purchase of a site and the erection of a custom-house and post office.

By Mr. SUMNER: Documents relating to the claim of H. D. and J. Blythe and Green, of London, for moneys advanced on bills drawn by the United States consul at Port Lewis, in the Island of Mauritius, to defray the experience of the states of the states of the states and the states are stated to the states of the stat

penses incurred in relieving destitute American citizens passengers in the barque "Peytona," forced by distres There were the usual number of petitions in favor of cheap ocean postage and for the repeal of the fugitive

Mr. GEYER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the memorial of Mrs. Madalena Van Ness, asking that whatever amount may be allowed on the claim of her late husband may be paid to her and

not to his administrators, submitted a report, accompa-nied by a bill for the relief of Madalena P. Van Ness, widow of Cornelius P. Van Ness, deceased.
[This bill provides that \$9,000 be paid to Mrs. Van in the seizure of goods imported into the district of Ver

mont, in violation of the laws of the United States, in the years 1813 and 1814.]

Mr. BRODHEAD, from the Committee of Claims, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the relief of Nancy D. Holker, of Virginia.

Mr. DODGE, of Iowa, from the Committee on Public Lands, to which were referred House bills to graduate the price of the public lands to actual settlers and cultivators, and to extend the right of pre-emption on unsurveyed

and to extend the right of pre-emption on unsurveyed lands in Minnesota, and for other purposes, severally reported them back without amendment, and recommended their passage.

Also, from the same committee, reported back Senate bill to graduate and reduce the price of the public lands, with a recommendation that it lie on the table; which was agreed to.

Mr. BENJAMIN, from the Committee on Private Land

Claims, to which was referred the bill for the relief of A.

G. Penn, submitted a report, and urged immediate action on the bill, as did Mr. SLIDBLL; but they were over-Mr. HAMLIN, from the Committee on Commerce, to which was referred House bill to change the name of the American-built brig "Hallowell" to that of "James Rose," and to grant to her a new register, reported it back without amendment, and asked its immediate consideration; which was agreed to, and the bill was read the third time and passed.

third time and passed.

On motion by Mr. BADGER, the joint resolution from the House of Representatives to fix the compensation of the employes in the legislative department of the Government, and to prohibit the allowance of the usual extra compensation to such as receive the benefits thereof, was read and referred to the select committee appointed on

On motion by Mr. HAMLIN, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution authorizing the printing of the compendium of the 7th census.

On motion by Mr. BUTLER, the resolution was amend-

ed so as to read: "That there be printed for the use of the Senate 50.000 "That there be printed for the use of the Senate Solution copies of a compendium of the 7th census, to be arranged by the Superintendent of the Census, embracing the population by towns and counties; the ratio tables of population; tables of nativities, births, marriages, and deaths; of the deaf, dumb, blind, insene, and diotie; of schools and colleges; of aggreblind, insene, and idiotic; of schools and colleges; of aggregate occupations; of churches; of newspapers and libraries; and of agricultural products; and also a table showing the number of acres of land in cultivation in each of the principal staple productions of the soil, the aggregate number of acres in cultivation in each of the States and Territories of the United States, with illustrative notes and comparative tables: Provided, The compendium shall be printed in royal octave form and not exceed 400 pages." And in that form, after a brief discussion, the resolu-

On motion by Mr. WELLER, the bill from the Hous of Representatives making provision for the postal service in the State of California and in the Territories of Oregon and Washington was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

HOUSE BILL REFERRED.

tion was adopted.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION. Mr. HOUSTON made a personal explanation in relation to a pamphlet which had that morning been placed on the desks of Senators signed by E. W. Moore. In the course of his remarks Mr. H. commented on certain statements contained in said pamphlet, and said he left the subject for the present, observing that Saturday was always his day, when he would renew it.

Mr. BADGER submitted a motion to reconsider the vote on passing the bill authorizing the construction of a subterranean line of telegraph from the Mississippi and the construction of the subterranean line of telegraph from the mississippi and the BILL RECONSIDERED. ing the construction of a from the Mississippi or subterranean line of telegraph from the Mississ Missouri rivers to the Pacific ocean; and its co

PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

On motion by Mr. BAYARD, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill to authorize the extension and completion of the Treasury buildings and also the construction of buildings for the War, Navy, and Interior Departments.

Mr. B. explained the objects of the bill, and showed the necessity that existed for its prompt passage to secure the safety of the public archives from fire or other injury.

injury.

Mr. ADAMS moved to postpone the further consideration of the subject until the second Monday in December;
which motion led to discussion, but was afterwards with-

Mr. SEWARD favored the bill; and, on motion by Mr.

CHASE, its further consideration was postponed until -morrow.

THE HOMESTEAD BILL. The bill granting a homestead of 160 acres of the pub-

lic lands to actual settlers came up as the special order; the motion pending being the amendment heretofore of-fered by Mr. CLAYTON. Mr. CHASE spoke at some length, centending that the bill was by no means so perfect as not to need amend-ment. He had no fears that any proper and reasonable amendment would prejudice its safety in the other branch; but if it could not be amended he should still vote for the

but if it could not be amended he should still vote for the bill in its present shape.

The debate was continued until a late hour, Messrs. BUTLER, CLAY, and PRATT sustaining the preposition to strike out the sixth section, and Messrs. CASS, STUART, and SEWARD opposing the motion.

Mr. MASON said it was evident that no question could be taken to-day, nor perhaps for several days to come, and he would therefore move that the further consideration be postponed until to-morrow, with a view to go into Executive session.

The motion having been agreed to, the Senate proceed-

The motion having been agreed to, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, a communication from the Treasury Department to the Committee of Ways and Means, recommending an increase of the compensation of the heads of bureaus, was ordered to be printed.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON COLT'S PATENT. On motion of Mr. LETCHER, a clerk was allowed to the select committee appointed to inquire whether money or other improper means have been used to procure the passage or defeat of any bill before Congress.

Mr. CUTTING asked the House to excuse him from

service upon this select committee. He said that he was already a member of the select committee which had under investigation charges arising out of the Gardiner claim, the duties of which exacted from him a great deal of time, and required much attention on the part of its members in order to enable them to report during this session. It appeared to him that the labor of investigating one matter of this description was sufficient to impose upon one member of the House, and he thought he ought not to be placed on another committee of investigating that the control of the committee of investigating the control of the committee of investigations.

The question was put to the House, and Mr. Curring The SPEAKER thereupon appointed Mr. WHEELER, of New York, to fill the vacancy in said committee.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION. Mr. HARRIS, of Mississippi, asked consent to make a personal explanation; und there being no objection—
Mr. H. proceeded: Mr. Speaker, when the bill making an appropriation for carrying into effect the recent treaty with Mexico was under consideration some days ago, I indulged in language unnecessarily severe, and, I am free to say, not merited by the parties against whom it was directed. I desire, sir, to recall that language, or, at least to modify it.

least, to modify it.

The acquisition of térritory from Mexico, and espe ly such territory, was not, in my judgment, demanded by the interests of the nation. But the abrogation of so the interests of the nation. But the abrogation of so much of the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo as made this Government responsible for the Indian depredations was an object of very great importance. To this extent, then, the treaty had something of a substantial basis to rest upon; and although the acquisition of such territory may be no recommendation, yet it certainly constitutes no valid objection to the treaty.

I desire to say, therefore, that I regret that I should have employed language upon that occasion which, what-

I desire to say, therefore, that I regret that I should have employed language upon that occasion which, whatever I may think of the recent negotiations with Mexico, was too sweeping in its character, and not altogether fit to be used. What I said in regard to the discussion which was elicited upon the subject of the treaty was provoked by a strong impression on my mind that there was really nothing in the question of privilege, as connected with the proposition before the committee, made upon any gentleman participating in it. The speeches of those who participated in the discussion are now in print, and wilt, I have no doubt, amply vindicate themselves from any insinuation contained in my remarks.

Mr. GREENWOOD, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, made an adverse report on the petition of Charles Christy, praying indemnity for losses sustained by Indian depredations in California.

On motion of Mr. RITCHIE, of Pennsylvania, Senate

On motion of Mr. RITCHIE, of Pennsylvania, Senate

bill for the relief of Robert C. Thompson, legal represen-tative of William Thompson, deceased, formerly a briga-dier-general in the army of the Revolutionary war, was taken from the Speaker's table, read twice, to the Committee on Revolutionary Claims.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill to re-eal so much of the act of 1852 as allows a discount of where the postage is prepaid, reported yesterday from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads.

Mr. OLDS concluded the remarks commenced by him yesterday in favor of the bill, the object of which, he state-

POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS.

ed, was to make newspapers pay to the revenues of the Post Office Department what it actually cost the Government to transport them through the mails.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Illinois, expressed himself against the bill, because it denied subscribers to newspapers the privilege of obtaining a discount of fifty per

cent. by prepaying the postage thereon.

Mr. CHANDLER opposed the bill, believing it would have a tendency to throw newspapers and periodicals into private expresses, and thus deprive the Government of my revenue therefrom.

Mr. BARRY and Mr. SMITH, of Virginia, each sup-

the morning hour expired. RIVER AND HARBOR BILL. On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, the House then went On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. McMullen, of Virginia, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill making appropriations for the repair, preservation, and completion of certain public works heretofore commenced under the authority of law, the question being on the amendment of Mr. Jones, of Louisians, repealing the joint resolution explanatory of an act appropriating money for the removal of the raft in Red river, approved January 7, 1853, and authorizing the Secretary of War to expend the appropriation with reference to the Red river raft in such way as he may deem best for the improvement of the navigation of the

deem best for the improvement of the navigation of Red river in and around said raft. And the question being taken, no quorum voted: Aves The roll was thereupon called, when the committee rose and reported the absentces to the House.

One hundred and eixty-eight members having answer-

The question was again taken on the amendment of Mr. Jones, and it was agreed to: Ayes 74, noes 59.

Numerous amendments were offered, sepong them Mr. BARKSDALE, to the effect that the Secretary of

War be authorized to withhold any or, all of the appro-priations contained in the bill, if in his opinion they are unconstitutional or inexpedient.

He said that he did not expect the amendment would He said that he did not expect the amendment would meet with any favor from the friends of the bill. The Administration and the War Department having frequently been referred to during this discussion, and the estimates of the War Department having been relied on by gentlemen in advocating these appropriations, and intimations having been thrown out, if not direct assertions made, that the Secretary of War and the Administration approved of them, he thought, in offering his amendment to test the sincerity of gentlemen on this question.

ment, to test the sincerity of gentlemen on this question. He knew, and the country knew, that the Secretary of He knew, and the country knew, that the Secretary of War was opposed to these appropriations. His whole political life proved it, and he had not recommended them in any document which had been sent to the House. The estimates for these appropriations were from officers under his charge. Nowhere had the Secretary recommended appropriations for rivers and harbors. The President's past course showed what his opinion was, and he knew that the Democratic platform declared that this Government had no right to commence and carry on a general system of internal improvements. The system in this bill was a general one, commencing in Maine, continuing through the North, travelling through the West, and landing in the South. landing in the South.

Mr. YATES inquired if the gentleman spoke for him-

self or for the whole Democratic party when he said that that party was opposed to appropriations for internal im-Mr. BARKSDALE replied that all Democrats who ad-

hered to the Democratic platform were opposed to inter-nal improvements by the General Government.

Mr. SEWARD wished the gentleman and the House to understand that he once belonged to the Whig party, and he was not ashamed of it, and of many of the principles.